

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 1280 - SB 1342**

March 31, 2021

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires that all elections in Shelby and Davidson County for judicial offices and offices elected in countywide elections and for legislative bodies be nonpartisan.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Decrease Local Expenditures – \$1,427,200**  
**/FY21-22 and Every Four Years Thereafter**

Assumptions:

- Under current law, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-13-203(f), only elections for state trial court judgeships and county judicial offices within Shelby County are conducted in a nonpartisan manner, if approved by the county legislative body.
- The proposed legislation would eliminate primary elections in Davidson and Shelby County for judicial offices, countywide elections and for legislative bodies.
- Conducting these elections in a nonpartisan manner will remove them from inclusion on the primary election ballot. A primary election will still be required during Presidential Election cycles.
- In 2016, Davidson County's primary election cost \$777,300 and Shelby County's primary election cost \$649,925.
- According to the Department of State, eliminating these primary elections would result in a total decrease in local expenditures of \$1,427,225 (\$777,300 + \$649,925) in FY21-22 every four years thereafter.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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